

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the abstract in its entirety and replace therefor with the following.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for refining aqueous suspended fibers, the fibers being paper fibers or pulp fibers including the steps of leading, pressing, forming, temporarily attaching, supplying and discharging. The leading step includes leading the aqueous suspended fibers through at least one refining zone which is located between an inside wall of a rotating refiner drum and at least one refiner roll, the refiner roll rotating in association with the refiner drum. The pressing step includes pressing the refiner roll and the refiner drum against each other thereby causing a mechanical refining force to be transferred to the fibers so that strength properties of paper produced therefrom are altered. The forming step includes forming a fibrous stock layer on the inside wall of the rotating refiner by the aqueous suspended paper fibers. The temporarily attaching step includes temporarily attaching the fibrous stock layer to the inside wall due to rotation. The supplying step includes supplying a continuous flow of liquid with the aqueous suspended paper fibers to the fibrous stock layer. The discharging step includes discharging the liquid from the fibrous stock layer.